Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210



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Letter of Protest

Date: * May 25, 2011

in Docket * 2011 - 47 - WS

Protestant Information:						
Name *	Amanda Mears (Mandy)					
Mailing Address *	366 Heartwood Drive					
City, State Zip *	Lexington	_, <u>sc</u>	29073	Phone *	803-422-5225	
E-mail	mandu18@gmail.com					

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

I am a resident in the Golden Pond neighborhood in Lexington, and have been a customer of Carolina Water Service for seven years.

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

Water & sewer rates of Carolina Water Service have always been high compared to the rest of the Midlands. The monthly bills we pay are already ridiculously high, and the proposed increase is outrageous.

My monthly bills were around \$65, but then steadily increased to around \$85, topping out at \$110 last fall/winter. There are two people that live in my house and we do not have a sprinkler system, nor did we ever have any leaks. I find it very hard to believe that we were ever using that much water. For eleven years I worked for a company that owned restaurants all over South Carolina, and the highest water & sewer bills were \$400 (Town of Lexington), but most were under \$200 monthly. These are commercial establishments with several hundred people passing through each day and water constantly being used for over twelve hours a day - and my water bill was 1/2 the cost of theirs. How is this possible?

The sewer charges have always seemed unfair. A family of four or five pays the same \$40 charge that I do, even though we only have two people in the house. Clearly we are not taxing the sewer system as much as larger households.

I have had my water cut off even though the bill was paid. Granted, the bill was paid late, but it was paid and water should not have been turned off. I was charged a re-connect fee and even though I disputed it, the charge was never credited back or removed.

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? *

(This section should be completed.)

I am absolutely willing to make an appearance.